

1080884 - R8 SDMS



"Kerry Gee"
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04/21/2008 10:44 AM

To Kathryn Hernandez/EPR/R8/USEPA/US@EPA
cc
bcc
Subject Noranda Memo regarding Tailings line break



Here you go. Noranda Tailings Spill.pdf

NORANDA

Noranda Mining Inc.

Ontario Project

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Park City, Utah 84060

noranda/pamour

June 18, 1981

To: John Cesar
From: Bob Zaebst
Subject: Damage of Ontario Project's Tailings line and Sline Spill

On June 18, 1981 at approximately 10:00 AM, the Ontario Project experienced a sline spill from the tailings line into Silver Creek. The four inch Driscopipe line had been damaged in two locations. The puctured pipe was north of Park City where the Monroc cement plant used to be located. The line was damaged by a contractor, P.S. Associates. From examining the site of the spill it appear that the contractor was going to divert the Silver Creek over to the area next to the railroad tracks. The reason for diverting the creek was because of devel-
opment. The creek was to be placed back into its original position.

Dusty Destrampe was notified by Bob Richardson that the Ontario Project's line had been damaged and was spilling into Silver Creek. Dusty immediately shut down the sandfill operations and went to inspect the damages. Bob Richardson had been called by the contractor and told that the line had been struck by the bucket of the backhoe.

Bob Richardson and myself inspected and photographed the two breaks and the spill.

At approximately 1:30 PM I contacted the Utah State Division of Health, Department of Solid Waste Management, and talked to Dennis Downs. I gave Dennis the particulars of the spill as outlined in the attached document. Procedure and Directory for Reporting of Oil and Hazardous Material Spills in Utah. The response that I received was that because there was not any hazardous wastes in the spill, the Department of Solid Waste Management did not feel the need to become involved. Mr. Downs was going to forward the information on to the Bureau of Water Pol-
lution Control. That department may want to contact the Ontario Project for further information.

The federal EPA, Floyd Nichols, was notified and their response was "Had the State of Utah been contacted?" and since the state had been notified, the federal people were satisfied.

noranda group

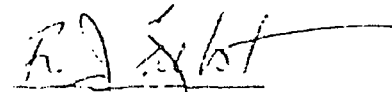
I contacted Gary Martin twice during the day to update the situation and Allen Gordon took some photographs to the lawyers in SLC so that they were kept abreast.

It is estimated that the slimes were discharging from the tailings line for three hours at the rate of five tons per hour.

Samples of the truck were taken on the day of the spill and one week later. A sample was gathered of the actual slimes that were spilled. Both will be analysed. The water samples will be assayed for Total Suspended Solids, Total Lead, and Total Zinc. The slime will be assayed for Lead and Zinc. Once the results are obtained they will be kept on file in the mill office.

The estimated distance that the slimes traveled was 7,500-8,000 feet.

During the time that I talked to the federal and state people, nothing was mentioned about the Ontario Project having to clean up the spill nor reporting at a later date concerning the spill.


R.J. Zeebst
Mill Superintendent